Accordingly, FCI submitted a proposal in May, 1991, for setting up of a new Captive Power Plant of 2x19 MW capacity at an estimated cost of Rs. 142.64 crores. In view of the budgetary constraints and higher priority for other revamping measures for FCI, it has not been possible to take up the new Captive Power Plant proposal for Sindri.

Closure of Sindri Unit

4603. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sindri Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited is facing closure for want of working capital for supply of inputs and spares; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government for sustained production at Sindri?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) is facing a problem in arranging regular supplies of inputs to maintain uninterrupted production in their Sindri unit on account of the fact that a sum of Rs. 30 crores is due to suppliers of inputs.

A non-Plan budgetary support of Rs. 7.50 crores was provided by the Government to FCI during the current financial year to meet the working capital needs despite the severe budgetary constraints of the Government. The company is also being paid its subsidy dues regularly.

Revamping of the Captive Power Plant of Sindri Unit

4604. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Captive Power Plant of the Sindri Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India is in urgent need of revamping to meet the power requirement of the Unit;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the revamping schemes for the Captive Power Plant at Sindri has been kept in abeyance for fund constraints; and

(c) if so, by when the funds for revamping would be released to the Sindri Unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) is carrying out revamping of their Sindri unit at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.23 crores, which includes a provision of Rs. 10.078 crores for revamping of their captive power plant set up in 1951. So far the company has spent Rs. 3.30 crores on the scheme and further work is held up for want of funds.

No time frame can be indicated at this stage regarding the release of funds in view of the overall fund constraints.

Releasing Instalments of Compensation to Bhopal Gas victims

4605. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to release first instalment of compensation for the victims of 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy shortly;

(b) if so, the total amount to be released by Government for Bhopal Gas Victims;

(c) whether the State Government have been misutilising the funds earlier allotted by the Central Government; and

(d) if so, what would be the check of the Central Government after releasing first instalment of compensation for Bhopal gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Union Carbide Corporation had deposited a sum equivalent to dollar 470 million with the Supreme Court in a court ordered settlement arrived at between the Government of India and Union Carbide Corporation|Union Carbide India Limited relating to the compensation amount. Government is moving the Supreme Court to release this amount to the Welfare Commissioner in Bhopal.

(c) and (d) The compensation amount will be disbursed by the Welfare Commissioner in terms of the provisions of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985 and the Scheme framed thereunder. No funds have been allotted by the Central Government to the State Government for the purpose of compensation.

Third writ petition of M|s. Carews

4606. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M|s. Carews filed third writ petition in respect of Combiflame in the Calcutta High Court;

(b) if so, when and on what ground and when was it received and when was the counter affidavit filed;

(c) whether it is a fact that records of second writ petition in Calcutta High Court are missing in the department;

(d) if so, what is the factual position;

(e) whether it is also a fact that court has passed exparte order in this case;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether Government have taken any steps to move to Supreme Court;

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(i) what steps have been taken to fix responsibility of those who did not represent Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (e) and (f) The petition was filed in April, 1992 claiming exemption in terms of Government's Order S. O. 719 (E) dated 21-7-1988. The intimation regarding filing of this petition was received through the Petitioner's advocate on 18-5-1992. Parawise comments were sent to Ministry of Law and Justice, Branch Secretariat, Calcutta on 28-5-1992. However, affidavit could not be filed and the petition was allowed by the Hon'ble Court on 26-6-1992. Copy of the Judgement is awaited.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(g) to (i) Necessary action has already been initiated for filing an appeal against the Court's Order allowing the petition.

Vacant posts in the Ministry

4607. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAZUMDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of various posts lying vacant in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the last three years;

(b) since when each of these posts fell vacant and what are the reasons for overstaffing in the Ministry;

(c) in what manner the persons who have been rendered surplus have been deployed;